

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier today we had an opportunity to open the Government in its entirety and put people back to work and to make sure that the taxpayers were getting the services for which they are paying. That opportunity was denied us when the Chair failed to recognize the privileged resolution of the minority leader of the House of Representatives.

That opportunity continues to be denied us because 20 Republicans cannot find their way to come forward and vote to open the Government. One hundred ninety-eight Democrats are prepared to vote. What we need are 20 good Republicans who put the interests of this Nation ahead of the interests of partisan politics, just 20 good Republicans out of the entire Republican caucus to come forward and let us open up this Government, and the negotiations at the White House can continue.

Everybody who is a party to those negotiations seems to believe one another is negotiating in good faith. There is no reason to hold the Government of the United States hostage, to hold small business hostage, to hold veterans hostage, and to hold other segments of this Government and its population hostage.

#### IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED HOUSE RECESS TO JANUARY 23

(Mr. DAVIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, frankly we have had several opportunities to open up the Government. We had one just a few minutes ago in overriding the President's veto on State, Commerce and Justice that would have put hundreds of thousands back to work. Our side of the aisle supported it, yours did not. The President has had an opportunity to sign a number of appropriation bills, he has not.

But I support the resolution. I will be one of the Republicans that will vote to open up the Government. I will come and sign a discharge petition or anything else. I think this has gone on too long. I think we all look ridiculous at this point, and it is important that we open up the Government, get people back to work and start paying the people who have been doing the work over the Christmas holidays and are not getting their full paychecks. They are now having to borrow and go to credit unions to do it.

I would also add, I understand there may be a motion here tomorrow to recess this House until January 23 subject to the call of the Chair. That is something I am going to oppose. I think it is wrong for us to go home, take another vacation, with pay, and leave once again hundreds of thousands of Federal employees with their situations unresolved and that would mean

another 2 or 3 weeks without pay. I will do everything I can to oppose that, Mr. Speaker.

#### ANOTHER VOTE AGAINST HOUSE RECESS

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I too want to join the chorus of folks objecting to the idea that we might, and it is inconceivable, but that we might actually recess tomorrow to January 23. We have got the people's business to do.

Somehow folks on the other side of the aisle think that these are the President's employees or they think that they are the Democrats' employees, but the fact remains that they are the taxpayers' employees and they ought to be allowed to do the taxpayers' business. We have lost a lot throughout this process, a lot of services, a lot of productivity, a lot of employee loyalty, and we ought to try to recover that by putting these people back to work as soon as possible.

We do not have a deal right now. We should stay here and continue working toward a deal. There are folks on this side of the aisle that are willing to accept a 7-year balanced budget. All we are saying is let us keep working to get people back to work.

It is not just Federal employees. We have contract employees, thousands of contract employees, and at the end of the day they are not going to be paid unless we change the rules of the game. They are out of actual cash dollars to feed their families. We have imposed a lot of pain. It is time to sit down and address the problem.

#### BEGOSH BECOMES FIRST AMERICAN CASUALTY IN BOSNIA

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, one of my constituents, 23-year old Specialist Martin John Begosh of Rockville, a graduate of Wheaton High School, became the first American casualty of the President's deployment of United States troops to Bosnia.

Specialist Begosh and his patrol in the 709th military police battalion were reconnoitering roads in the Tuzla area when his Humvee ran over a land mine. He was lucky not to have been killed; as it is, he may be permanently disabled because the blast shattered much of the bone in his right foot.

I was pleased this weekend to speak with Specialist Begosh's parents, who expressed great relief that their son was out of harm's way, as well as great pride in their son's devotion to duty and country and in his being awarded the purple heart—let us hope it is the only one that need be presented in the Bosnia operation.

This weekend, Specialist Begosh's grandparents will be celebrating their fiftieth anniversary. I have written to the Secretary of the Army asking that, if he is fit to travel, Specialist Begosh be evacuated to the Washington area in time to join his family for this special event. I hope that this request will be approved.

□ 1815

#### THE HUMAN EFFECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing wrong with Congress having an honest debate on a 7-year budget. That is democracy. There is something terribly wrong when the Speaker of this House today prohibited democracy from working in preventing us from being able to vote cleanly, and clearly, and quickly to reopen the Government.

Let me tell you some of the victims of that decision by the Speaker and House Republicans. This letter from my district, a former welfare recipient, now a Federal employee, basically had to cancel his child's 9-year-old birthday because he could not get paid. This letter from my district is a Government employee who cannot buy insulin for his diabetes problem. This letter is from a woman in my district, a Federal employee whose husband lost his private-sector job recently and she cannot get paid as a VA employee. They are not sure if they will keep the mortgage on their home. This is a letter from a woman in my district, a hardworking Federal employee who had to borrow money from her mother in order to pay rent. Finally, this, along with many other letters, is a letter from someone who needed a bone marrow transplant operation, cannot get it done because of Speaker GINGRICH and the House Republicans' decision today. That is wrong.

#### TRAGIC EFFECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Mr. DURBIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN].

Mr. MORAN. I thank my friend, the gentleman from Illinois, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules of this House reported out a resolution that will come to the floor tomorrow that would have this Congress go on recess until January 23 while the Government is shut down, Federal employees are locked out of their jobs, the American public is locked out of their Government. We have done this before.

I would urge this body not to do it again. This will haunt us for the rest of